

Title	Dragoon charge (structural)	Number
Time Location	Monday 8.30am Queen Square Exterior Starts lower west corner and 'rolls' across Square in diagonal	
Relation to other files	File has three phases: pre-charge, charge and immediate aftermath. At specified times (e.g. every 17 minutes), the file is played to all Visitors, interrupting whatever they are listening to at the time.	
Note	130, perhaps 250, killed or wounded in the two charges. Rioters' lines will be selected from those written and will overlap and interrupt.	
SFX	General riot, falling almost to stillness Horses hooves across Square Neighing Dogs barking Screams and yells Sabres thwacking and hacking, clanging Discordancy of piano strings Some pistol (carbina) shots Weeping, moaning, groaning, screaming, retching; Fire Buildings collapsing, etc	
Characters	Rioter 1 Rioter 2 Rioter 2 Rioter 2 Rioter 5 Rioters Major Mackworth	

[VERY SLIGHT AIR OF UNEASE GRADUALLY MOUNTING]

[PEOPLE IN CROWD TALKING TO EACH OTHER,
GENERALLY SOUNDING EACH OTHER OUT]

- Rioter 1 What's happening?
- Rioter 2 Don't know. Any body know what is happening?
- Rioter 3 Not certain. They say it is the troops.
- Rioter 4 The troops! Then we have nothing to fear there! They
are nothing but tin soldiers!
- Rioter 5 Heard say their muskets are charged with blanks.
- Rioter 3 No. No, it is something different this time. I am certain
of it.
- Rioter 4 Nah – they have not the authority nor the balls to...
- Rioter 3 Hoist me up. [LIFTED ONTO SHOULDERS] At the
top of the Square, they are in formation. There is
something afoot.
- Rioter 1 I do not like this...
- Rioter 4 'Tis a shew of force, nothin' more. The Colonel will
soon back amongst us, shaking hands, his boys
cheering our revelries...

Rioter 3 [MORE SUBDUED] I tell 'ee this is different. They have their sabres drawn. [MORE URGENTLY] Let me down.

Rioter 2 I am making move...

Rioter 4 Oh lily livered...

Rioter 2 And if they do charge?

Rioter 3 Let me down. I am away from here. [voice fading] in all haste, I advise the same of you all.

[FEAR IN THEIR VOICES NOW]

General rioters Are they to charge us?
They say sabres are drawn.
Let me pass.
Take cover.
Where? Where take cover? A choice of the sword and the fire...
Get down...
They are coming...
Hide behind the railings. Lie low until they pass.

Major Mackworth CHARGE MEN! And charge home!

[HORSES HOOVES ACROSS SQUARE; NEIGHING, DOGS BARKING; SHOUTING BY DRAGOONS AND RIOTERS, SCREAMS AND YELLS FROM RIOTERS AND ONLOOKERS; SABRES THWACKING AND

HACKING, CLANGING; DISCORDANCY OF PIANO STRINGS; GENERAL MAYHEM OF CRIES, CONFUSION AND VIOLENCE.]

Rioters

What is it? What is happening?

Run

Move

Get down

No

Mercy

Stop

Let me go. I ain't dun nothin'.

Head for The Back.

Grab a railing. Fight back.

Can't get through that way. There's constables blocking it.

Regroup lads!

Let me pass.

No, oh no

Run

Behind the railings

Get down low

Take cover in the buildings

But we'll burn in the buildings

There's nowhere else

Clear the Square!

[AS GALLOPING RECEDES: WEEPING, MOANING, GROANING, SCREAMING, RETCHING; GENERAL RIOTING ALMOST CEASED; BACKGROUND

SOUNDS OF FIRE, BUILDINGS COLLAPSING, ETC
CONTINUE – FAR MORE EERILY NOW]

Rioters

So much blood
Oh I am hurt.
This fellow needs help.
He is too far gone.
This man is dead.
Some body help me.
Oh it is carnage.
Give me your jacket. We have to staunch the flow.
William?
Mama.
Father.
Get a posse together. We are headed for the Council
House.
How could they do this? How could they?
Martha? Any body seen my Martha?
...Oh thank god! Are you hurt?
How could you – at a time like this? Picking pockets.
You disgust me!
[WEEPING] We only came to look. We are not a part
of this.
Oh my god, I am death struck. Lord Jesus, have
mercy. [CRIED REPEATEDLY]
This man is gravely hurt. We need to get him to the
Infirmery at once.
I am gone to meet my Maker.
Bring a handcart.
Oh that I had taken my wife's advice and not come to
Bristol.

We had only come to the Square to check on our home. We had heard it was fired.

My baby. My baby. [HYSTERICALLY]

I was on my way to work...

No one said. No one said to move away. They just came. No warning.

Oh. They have sliced her to the bone.

Ah only coom to see the shindig.